

## PHYSICIAN INFORMATION BULLETIN # 10

### ADDITION OF ANESTHESIA MODIFIER “QY” TO TRAUMA FUND

#### **The Trauma Fund will reimburse the “medical direction of one Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) by an anesthesiologist.”**

The Trauma Fund will reimburse an anesthesiologist for the medical direction of one (1) certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA) providing anesthesia service to an uncompensated care patient during a surgical procedure. The inclusion

of modifier QY is in addition to the two anesthesia modifiers AA and QK which are currently eligible for payment under the Trauma Fund. The QY modifier will reimburse anesthesiologists at 50% of the payment rate.

#### **ILLUSTRATION**

Dr. Smith is an anesthesiologist who treats patients at a Level II trauma center. Dr. Smith provides medical direction over one CRNA during a surgical procedure performed on an uncompensated care patient in the trauma center.

Dr. Smith’s billing office submitted the anesthesia services on their uncompensated care application using the appropriate American Society of Anesthesiologists CPT code and the anesthesia modifier “QY.”

#### **Current News**

- ◆ MHCC has conducted two education sessions, one in Cheverly and the other in Hagerstown, for trauma physicians and their billing staff. A third session is scheduled on:

- January 5<sup>th</sup> at Peninsula Regional Medical Center

The purpose of this meeting is to update participants on the changes in the application process, review Medical Assistance billing, and answer questions regarding the January 2005 submission.

- ◆ The deadline for submitting the next Uncompensated Care and On-Call Applications is **January 31, 2005**. MHCC encourages trauma physicians use the Excel spreadsheet version of the Uncompensated Care Application, which is available on MHCC’s Web site at [www.mhcc.state.md.us/trauma\\_fund/\\_trauma.htm](http://www.mhcc.state.md.us/trauma_fund/_trauma.htm).